THE Shakerite
Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, OH 44120
Volume 61 | November 30, 1990 | Issue 3

S.A.T. revisions to affect class of '95

BY TANIA MENESSE
Staff Reporter

Revisions of College Entrance Exams, which will effect the college admissions of the class of '95 will, "...reinforce a strong curriculum with a more versatile set of tests serving a more diverse group of people," Derek Bok, president of Harvard said in the Oct. 31 edition of the New York Times.

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), will now be called the SAT-I or the Scholastic Assessment Test. Many college bound seniors now take the math and English Achievement test but as of 1995, they will be replaced by the SAT-II.

"One motivation for the revisions was to gear away from the label of intelligence test towards a subject matter test, but there will still be no essay on the SAT-I," Mike Ueland, Director of The Princeton Review said. "The misconception that there would be an essay sprung from the SAT-II revisions which include an essay, as well as new subject areas, like the addition of Japanese and Chinese as foreign language tests."

Donald M. Stewart, president of the College Board, and Gregory Arnig, president of the Educational Testing Service approved the SAT-I in late October. Significant changes include the elimination of the Test of Standard Written English (TSWE). Ueland said the focus will be more on testing vocabulary in the context of a longer reading comprehension section.

"Three years of revision will reduce the effectiveness of outside coaching companies and will let high schools understand that test taking is not as important as reading and writing," said New York Times, Oct. 31.

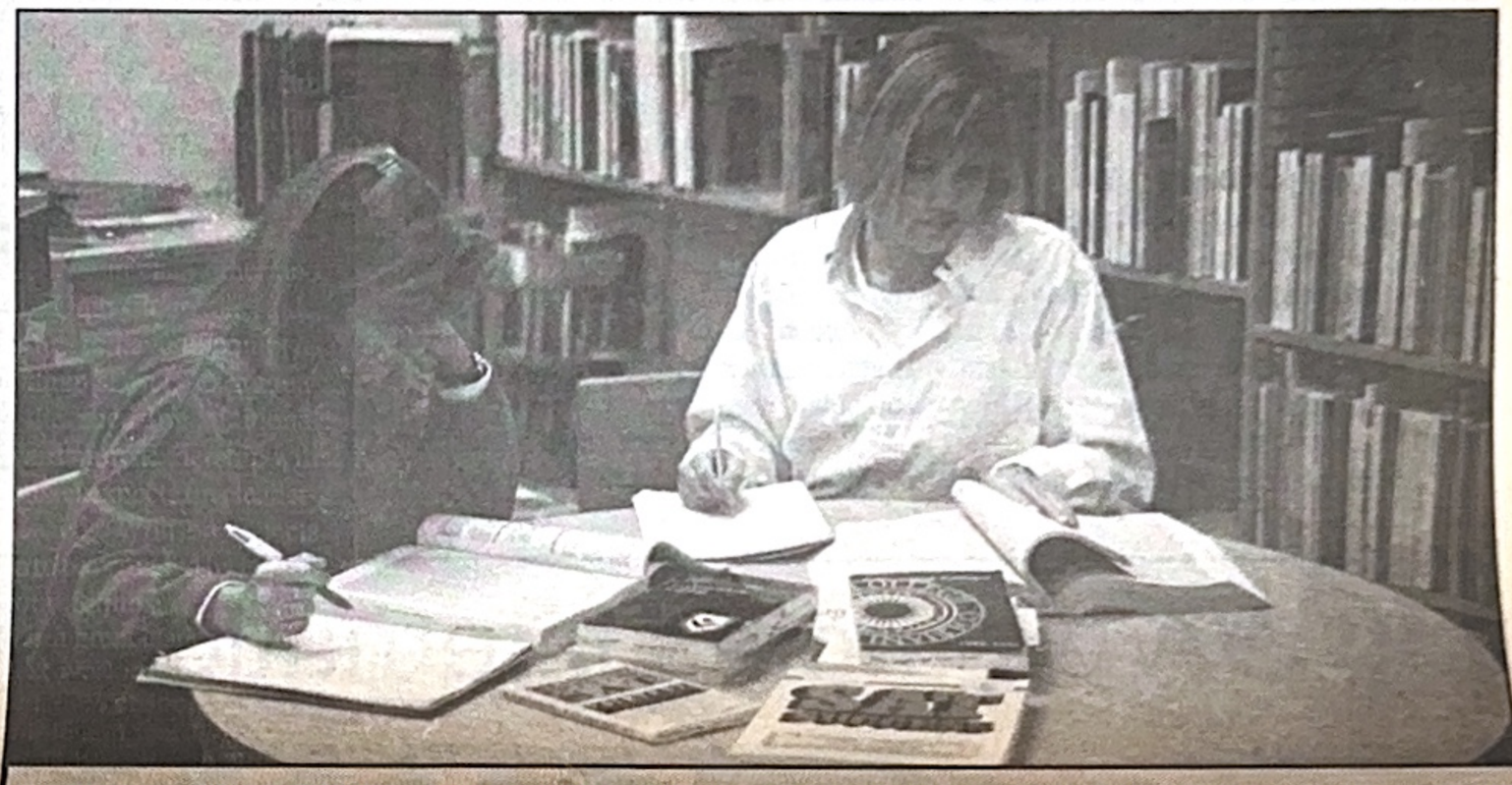
According to The Times, the most significant change is in the math section. There will be 10 to 15 open ended questions, and instead of selecting the answers from a list, the student will be required to fill in circles indicating their actual answer. Students will also have the option of using a calculator during the test.

The test will be 20 minutes longer, extending the time to 2 hours and 30 minutes, but will still be graded on the 200 to 800 point scale.

Critics of the SAT are not satisfied with the SAT-I because they say the changes are simply cosmetic.

It is predicted that girls will continue to score 60 points lower than boys even though their high school and college grades are better overall. According to Cinthia Schuman, executive director of the National Center for Fair and Open Testing , this fundamental bias has not been addressed.

"We have a million students whose lives are dependent upon a test that fails in every measure to predict how well a student will do in college," said John Katzman, president of the Princeton Review. "This is unfair particularly to blacks, Hispanics, and women against whom the test is biased."



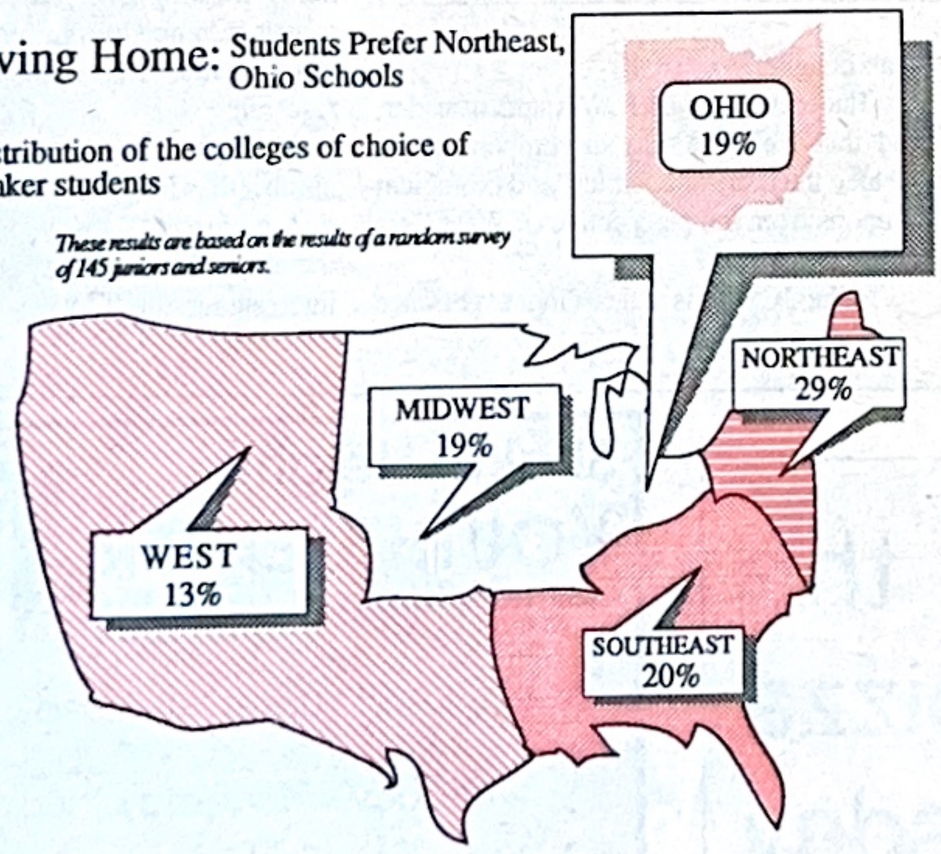
GETTING A HEAD START. Juniors Jennifer Ehlen and Tara Smith prepare for the S.A.T. Members of the class of '95 will be the first to take the revised version of the S.A.T.
Photo by Miles Molyneaux

Students prefer smaller colleges, northeastern schools

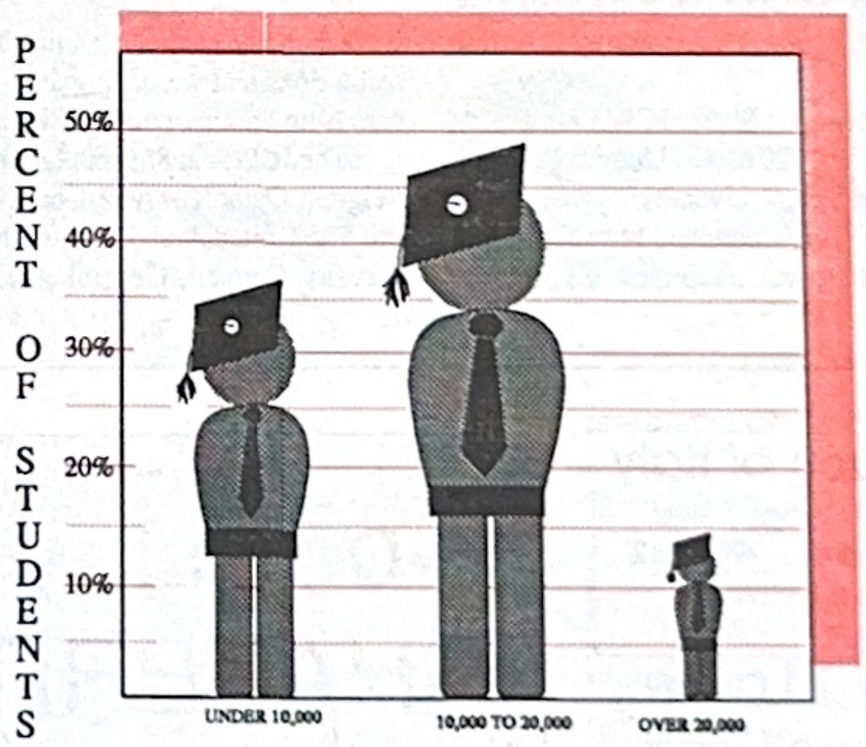
Leaving Home: Students Prefer Northeast, Ohio Schools

Distribution of the colleges of choice of Shaker students

These results are based on the results of a random survey of 145 juniors and seniors.



School size preferences



Graphics by Kathryn Schulz

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'Survey says'...

'Feud For Food' raises money for hungry

BY MIKE GIANNELI
Staff Reporter

Sophomores won The Family Feud For Food held Nov. 13 by Youth Ending Hunger.

The Feud was the idea of the social studies department, who then gave the idea to Youth Ending Hunger because they considered it a worthy cause, said social studies and faculty team member Susan MacDonald.

The Feud consisted of trivia questions and the "Zany Olympics," which included contests such as basketball shooting and toilet paper wrapping, among others. The "Zany Olympics" served as a tie breaker when no team answered the trivia questions correctly.

Youth Ending Hunger deals with the hunger problem in Cleveland through various food drives and fund raisers. Youth Ending Hunger president, Pat White, said that their objective is "to make people more aware of poverty and the hunger problem, because in Shaker we live in a sheltered world."

Before the drive, White said he would be happy if $100 were raised. The drive ultimately raised $35.

"We're obviously very disappointed [with the amount of money raised]," said Harry Wise, the adviser of Youth Ending Hunger.

Members of the winning sophomore team were Miesha Filey, Tonya Huffman, Heidi Jacobson, Tali Lando, Tucker Manning, Meke Millstone, Roni Mintz, Jaime Porras, Kim Weisman, and Jenny Zfaz.

"I played to show my school spirit and to compete with the teachers to crush them," Huffman said.

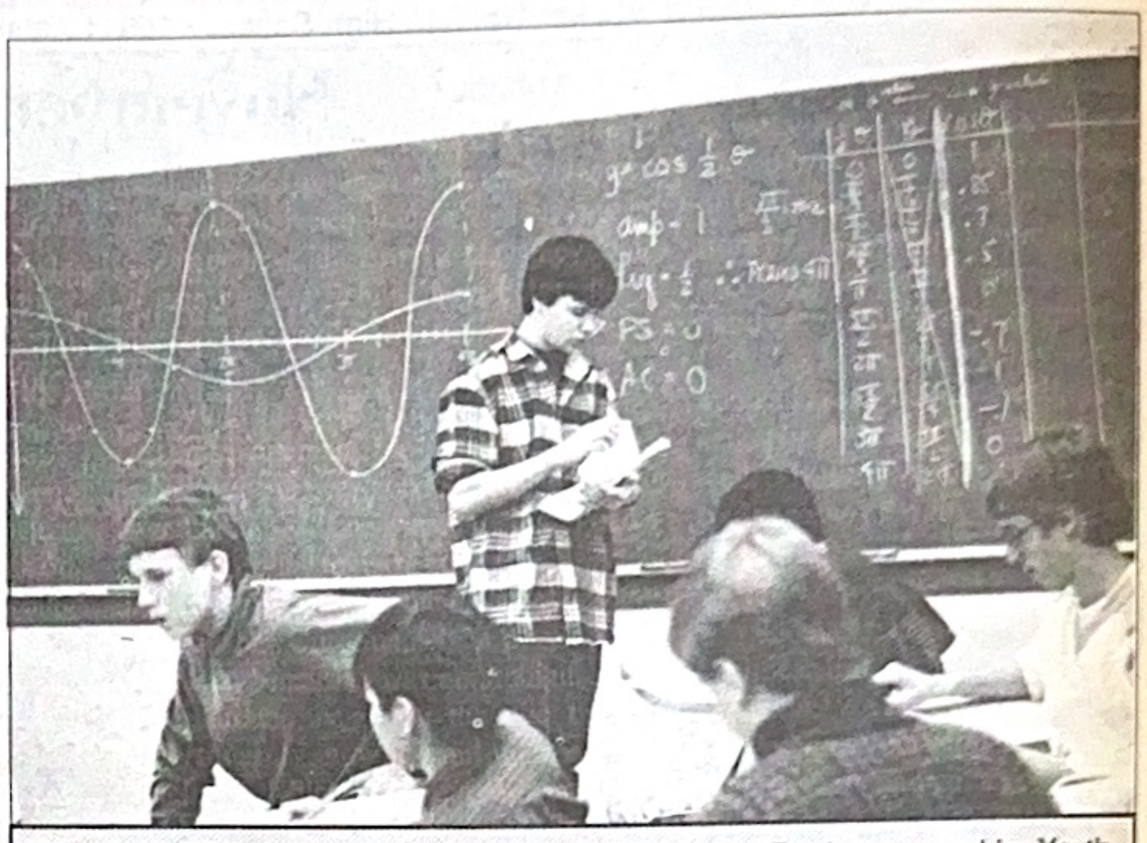
Porras expressed similar enthusiasm after winning the Feud.

"I was overwhelmed with joy, and enjoyed finally being able to express our superior knowledge to the teachers," Porras said.

Porras added that the best part was "beating the obnoxious seniors."

According to White, Youth Ending Hunger plans to have another Feud by the end of the year.

White added that the group "wants more people, but people who are dedicated."



FEUDING FOR A WORTHY CAUSE. The Feud For Food, sponsored by Youth Ending Hunger, raised $30 to aid the hungry people of Cleveland. The sophomores won the Feud, which was held November 13.
Photo by Jon Strange

JCWA promotes international awareness

BY MARK SMITH
Staff Reporter

The Junior Council on World Affairs, an organization geared toward students interested in international affairs and the operation of the United Nations, is now open to students at Shaker.

The JCWA is for "students interested in current events on an international scale," said mathematics teacher Dennis Hogue, who advises the committee.

Hogue explained that the JCWA is actually a mock United Nations with "exactly the same format as the United Nations."

The group debates world issues through the eyes of another country. The students choose what country they will represent.

The JCWA at Shaker is a member organization of the Cleveland Council on World Affairs. Students representing the schools in the council meet at a mock U.N. assembly, in which they portray U.N. delegates.

In March, the Shaker JCWA is planning to attend the 1990 Model United Nations at Cleveland State University.

The JCWA members attended a special debating workshop Nov. 13. In the workshop, the students learned how to draft resolutions and were assigned topics to debate from another country's viewpoint.

The JCWA at Shaker plans to represent Belgium, Qatar, The Ivory Coast, Mauritania, and The United Arab Emirates this year in a Security Council, General Assembly, and Arab League.

Junior Ray Graves, JCWA student leader, said that while he was in competition he debated the issue of chemical and biological weapons from the perspective of West Germany.

"The JCWA is a learning experience since it helps you to see news from other than the U.S. perspective," Graves said.

DELEGATING THE FUTURE. Junior Ray Graves, student leader of JCWA, distributes papers at a recent meeting. The group will participate in a mock United Nations in March. *Photo by Miles Molyneaux*

Other group members said they believe the JCWA helps the student become more attuned to current events.

"The JCWA allows you to gain new knowledge about other cultures and other countries," junior Eric Ricken said.

"[The JCWA helps] to expand my knowledge about issues that face the world," said junior Damon Frank.

Hogue said that during the season, the time commitment from the students in the JCWA is not excessive.

"[The JCWA] has the same characteristics of the speech and debate club with not quite the time commitment," Hogue said.

Hogue added that the group is currently meeting every Monday, but will meet less frequently during the year so that group members have time to do their own research.

The group's 16 members is a greater number than Hogue expected, but he added that the group is always looking for new members. Students may contact Hogue if interested in the JCWA.

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Leftover business...
Fight over dish duty continues

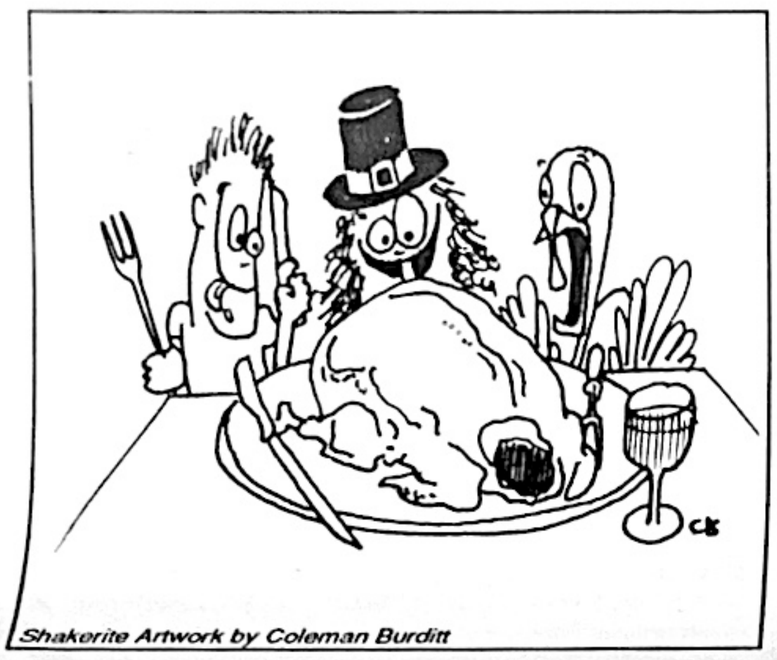
BY KATHRYN SCHULZ
Staff Reporter

I do not like turkey.

This would not be a problem if I lived in, say, Argentina, or France, or even Turkey itself, for that matter. But here in the land of the free, this particular quirk of my tastebuds leaves me ostracized, humiliated and hungry once a year.

As this year's Thanksgiving wends its way into memory leaving behind only photographs of carved turkey and several hundred gallons of leftover stuffing, I am forced to wonder why our ancestors chose such a miserable specimen of meat to celebrate with. I am told that Ben Franklin once started a campaign to make the national bird a turkey instead of a bald eagle. I don't know how eagles taste, but I am willing to try eating them and putting turkeys on our coins if the eagle tastes even slightly better.

> *"I have to wonder what our pilgrim friends would say if they could watch a modern Thanksgiving dinner."*



Shakerite Artwork by Coleman Burditt

In fairness, though, the meal isn't always so bad. The gravy and the stuffing are usually pretty good, and dessert is always divine. I don't like cranberries though, or sweet potatoes either. Plain old normal potatoes are fine with me - baked, boiled, mashed, scalloped, or just plain cafeteria-killed, whatever, but why on earth would you put sugar and sweet gooey stuff all over them? Foods like that just don't mix. Next thing I know there will be turkey bits in my dessert.

One of the greatest, if unsung, American rituals takes place every Thanksgiving. It's called the "Oh-No-Please-Allow-Me-No-I-Couldn't-Sit-Down-I-Insist" tradition, and it is only slightly less elaborate than the turkey-mating dance and probably considerably more ludicrous to watch. All of Thanksgiving is but a stage set for this big final moment. It is the time when all of the relatives and friends start expressing polite, firm, insistent and utterly false desires to clear the table and do the dishes. The evening before you couldn't catch the same group of adults within 20 feet of the kitchen, unless it was to snitch a little piece of tomorrow's desert. But something, I suppose a sense of repleteness from eating all of that wonderful turkey, inspires adults to compete with one another over who gets the fulfilling task of reaching down the disposal to retrieve the fork that got sent down along with all of the leftovers.

I have to wonder what our pilgrim friends would say if they could watch a modern Thanksgiving dinner. I have always harbored a suspicion that they ate turkey not because they liked it, but because it was plentiful, stupid and slow, and therefore easy to catch. They probably ate cranberries because they were the only berries that didn't kill them. I am also pretty sure that Pilgrim Smith, after having blessed his surroundings and eaten his fill, did not turn to Goody Smith and say, "Prithee, wilt thou let me do the dishes?"

Thanksgiving is a time when you are supposed to be grateful for all of the things you have. I think it is time for the nation to change. Now that we have McDonalds, hamburgers on the grill and Giovanni's, isn't it time we start celebrating these things? I'm sure the pilgrims would have eaten Chinese food, if they hadn't been so afraid of getting egg foo yung on their spiffy white collars.

The age of the turkey is over. It is, after all, a free country, and if you are a vegetarian (lettuce and cucumber turkey), a junk food lover (McTurkey), a teenager (turkey with double cheese, pepperoni, sausage, onions, olives and anchovies, and a six pack of coke please), or just a good old American who never could stomach the conventional bird, it is time to stand up and be counted.

Respond to the Shakerite!

Write a letter to the editor. The Shakerite welcomes all letters to the editor that are signed and typed or written neatly. Letters must be 250 words or less and submitted to Room 224 by Dec. 18.

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The Shakerite is a public forum, published nine times yearly, for and by the students of Shaker Heights High School.

Letters to the editor must be signed and may not exceed 250 words. Letters, subscription and advertising inquiries should be delivered to the Shakerite office in Room 224, or mailed to The Shakerite, 15911 Aldersyde Drive, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120. The Shakerite reserves the right to edit or reject any letter to the editor or advertisement.

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The Shakerite is composed electronically using Macintosh computers and printed in Akron by Northcoast Web, Inc.

The Shakerite is affiliated with
- Northern Ohio Scholastic Press Association
- Columbia Scholastic Press Association
- National Scholastic Press Association

Teachers' opinions benefit classroom

BY SARAH STEWART
Co-News Editor

At some time or another, most teachers have probably been asked their position on a controversial issue or who they voted for in the last election. Students would benefit from an honest, thoughtful response, but many teachers decline to answer such questions because they feel that their opinions are unneccesary in the classroom.

Throughout their education, children are told to respect their teachers and what they teach. They are reminded to pay attention in class; always keep their heads up, eyes open and mind focused. These ideals are ingrained in the minds of students, yet in most classroom settings they are hard to abide by. Teachers must struggle to keep the attention of the students.

Teachers are often judged by their ability to provide interest in a subject which would otherwise be considered uninteresting. The most influential teachers are those who share more than factual knowledge in science or history; the memorable teachers express their own views of life. They have the ability to successfully integrate their knowledge of their respective subject with the experiences that only life can offer.

When students are aware of a teacher's opinion, they view them in a different light. If the student's opinion differs from that of the teacher, he or she may be more willing to contribute in class. Therefore, class discussions improve, and teacher-student relationships form on an equal basis.

An outgrowth of this equality is a greater respect for teachers. A major problem in today's educational system is a lack of respect for the teaching profession. If teachers gain respect from the students, then society may follow the example. By giving the students an opportunity to understand the teachers and their opinions, both the learning process and esteem for the teacher will grow.

The sharing of opinions not only brings students closer to their teachers, but it can be successfully utilized in the teaching of academic subjects. Teachers must learn to differentiate between their opinions and the facts, but the use of opinions in teaching can help the students grasp the knowledge and better apply it to their own views.

The open-mindedness of students can only increase when they are given a different side of the story than they might have heard at home or in the presence of friends. Just like a diverse classroom can help students to understand one another, so can a teacher who shares opinions with students.

More personalized teaching benefits the students, but the fine line between teaching and preaching cannot be crossed. The opportunity to share opinions is important, but it must not be abused to a point where the classroom becomes a soapbox.

Seniors react to graduation changes

To the Editor,

Commencement exercises are causing all types of debates this year. To me the main arguments are based on the fact that the class of '91 had no say in the matter.

Did the administration stop to think that the girls are likely to wear high heeled shoes, and high heeled shoes sink into soft earth? The sun glare could cause major problems when students walk to get their diplomas, as well as prohibiting parents from spotting their sons or daughters from the back row. It is little items like these that can ruin a graduation ceremony. Let us be a little more realistic, Shaker. Will graduation really be a beauty for all to see?

Annamaria Christmas, Senior

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To the Editor,

The Shakerite's predictions on how bad commencement will be are inaccurate and not well thought out. It is true that the weather may not be nice and that graduation may need to be broadcasted to the gym by closed circuit television. However, the Shakerite failed to realize that the weather may be nice, the stadium can be repaired and people may not have to watch a screen to see the graduating class.

The decision on where graduation will be held has already been made. Why try to change it now? If classes prior to ours were unable to make a choice on where their graduation were to be held, what makes the students think that the administration will let us decide? We need to accept where commencement will be. The success of the graduation is up to us, so we should become more positive and open-minded to try to make the best of our last months here.

Dionne Burress, Senior

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To the Editor,

The moving of graduation ceremonies for the class of '91 is said to be bringing tradition back to the school. The administration says that the students have never had the choice of where they will graduate. This year they have moved it to one of the places that some students do not want it to be held. They say that money has nothing to do with it but it doesn't seem that way. The money they will spend on the repairs to the bleachers and the new sound system will equal or surpass the costs of graduation at the Front Row Theatre, but that's only for this year. When next year rolls around there will not be bleachers to fix or a new sound system to be installed.

The administration wants to bring tradition back to the school at the expense of this year's graduating class.

John Hassel, Senior

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To the Editor,

The issue of commencement has raised a lot of controversy. I feel that commencement held at the high school will be fine. We as seniors, having never had a high school graduation before, would not know the difference if it were held here or at the Front Row Theatre. Granted that some of us have watched older brothers, sisters or friends walk across the platform, and pictured ourselves in their place. It would not kill us to do something different.

Holding graduation at the high school could potentially benefit the entire school, as money normally used to rent the Front Row Theatre could be employed in improving the stadium, track and field. It is too late now to rent the Front Row Theatre and therefore a waste of students' time to protest commencement at the high school. Commencement has never been a student's decision, and probably never will be. How can we as students expect to be treated as adults when we acted like children as we hollered and booed, disrespecting Dr. Rumbaugh and Mr. Mohney at the senior assembly? If we have a valid point that needs to be heard, which many students do, then we should go about it the proper manner with respect and consideration to others.

Patrick Melley, Senior

Barriers still a controversy

To the Editor,

As a former resident of Cleveland, and someone who has always opposed the barriers, I feel I must respond to the article in the October issue of the Shakerite. When an article is written for a publication, both sides of the issue should be explored in order for it to be truly objective. That article was the Shaker point of view.

Growing up in the inner-city, I was raised among many people who said that the suburbs are like separate worlds. They are for whites and acceptable exceptions; outsiders are never welcome. Is this true? Not totally. There are some people who seem to think that way but they are a definite minority. However, I can't ignore the fact that blacks seem to be shown houses only in certain areas of Shaker or the ever-present feeling of cliquishness around me.

When you grow up in the inner city, you sometimes learn to resent the suburbs. You feel as if the people who live in them look down upon you. It's because of this feeling that those barriers were like a slap in the face to almost every black in the Greater Cleveland area. It was like running up a banner that said, "No! We don't want you here! We will do whatever we must to keep you out!" Maybe that wasn't the intent, but to most people actions speak louder than words.

While I do not agree with the banner proclaiming this city to be "Apartheid Shaker," I can certainly understand the feelings behind it. Shaker will never be like South Africa, but take a good objective look around; Shaker is just like every other place in the world. It is far from perfect and no more or no less racist.

Deidre Mack, Senior

Poor coverage of girls soccer

To the Editor,

As a senior member of the girls soccer team, I am deeply upset over the poor coverage given to the girls' soccer team by the Shakerite. This has affected the way people look at and receive the team.

The girls team and the concept of having a girls' soccer team are brand new. To have a major article on how bad we were is truly unfair. Most people, like myself, have never played organized soccer before. I started out the season with absolutely no knowledge of my position as goal keeper and our last game of the season ended as a shut out. I think that the team came together and improved greatly as a whole.

We ended the season with a record of 2-7-1. Granted that is not the superb record that the guy's team has, but they have been playing for many years versus our one. We do not mean to take any of the well deserved attention away from the guys. They have earned it but we have also!

Rebecca Sable, Senior

SHAKER HEIGHTS SHAKERITE

Letters to the editor

Parking situation parallels disaster

To the Editor,

I would like to address the issue of parking at the high school. As a senior, I have been driving to school for almost two years and as far as I can remember there hasn't been a problem until this year. Many students do not know how to properly park and they leave wide spaces between cars so that everyone else has a difficult time parking. I am aware that there is really no other alternative because there is not enough space for an extra parking lot.

Since parking is so treacherous, parking illegally is widely used as an alternate. This becomes very expensive due to the build up of parking tickets, so the least that Shaker could do for drivers is to not issue parking tickets between the hours of eight a.m. and three p.m. We have school to attend and if the Shaker Heights police have nothing better to do then ticket cars they need to straighten their priorities.

Heidi Tolchinsky, Senior

SOA article surprises readers

To the Editor,

The article "Sons of Africa' Seek Official Sanctioning" was a surprising shock to me. I picked up the Nov. 1 issue of the Shakerite and was astonished to find this article on the front page of the school newspaper. I'm glad to see that our newspaper is publishing more articles that deal with African American students. I realize that our school had a problem last year that dealt with this subject. The Shakerite is gradually and successfully bringing this controversy to an end.

The article was written with style, truthfulness, and people's opinions, which is what I think is important. I appreciate the manner in which the writers pointed out the positive meaning of the new and much needed organization. If I were a newspaper critic, Jeremy Kahn and Ahmad Atwan would definitely receive thumbs up.

Lendale Martin Jr., Senior

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To the editor,

As a group leader of S.G.O.R.R. and a member of the Interact Club, I am astounded that there are not any teachers that will sponsor SOA or help to get it sanctioned. If the school has sponsors for clubs such as S.G.O.R.R. and Interact Club, then why can't there be a sponsor for a group that deals with African American students' views on violence, education, and the curriculum within the high school. I feel that these actions of procrastination of the official sanctioning of SOA are unfair. If we want a well-rounded school and unity within our students, then the official sanctioning of SOA and finding a sponsor should be no problem.

Vashon McIntyre, Senior

New proficiency testing unfair

To the Editor,

I am concerned about the proficiency tests given to the class of '94 that decide which of the four diplomas they will receive. Most freshman have a hard time adjusting to the world of high school without the added factor of these tests.

Students tend to develop better study skills and a broader vocabulary in their sophomore year. Freshmen would not have had a chance to develop these skills, since it is their first year at the high school, and therefore are not ready take a test of this importance. There may also be a student who is very bright that may not have the best test taking abilities. They should not have to take a test that may affect the rest of their lives in their freshman year.

Chandra Reeves, Senior

PROCESS vs. PRODUCT...

Students bypass learning to grub grades

BY JEREMY PARIS
Staff Reporter

In theory a school is "an organized body of scholars and teachers associated for the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge." In practice, however, the central focus of school has changed from the "pursuit and dissemination of knowledge" to the pursuit and competition for grades. In other words grade grubbing.

Competition is inherent in the schools because students are competing to be at the top of the class and get into a "good" college. This competition however, puts emphasis on grades rather than learning and understanding the material presented. Part of the reason for this is the way in which students are tested. The emphasis changes from understanding what you learn to learning only what is required for the test, since testing is so frequent.

The way to resolve this is to explore methods of testing that show understanding of the material rather than understanding of the system of testing. If tests were also more infrequent, then there would be more time to fully comprehend the subject matter, and the rush to try to memorize only the necessary facts for the test would be avoided. True, learning does not take place when students are cramming for tests. Most of the time that material is forgotten once the test is over and, once again, the wrong goal is reached.

A lot of importance is placed on mastering the way a teacher gives a test. If a student understands the material but is having difficulty understanding the way a teacher tests, then the student's grades will be poor. The reverse of this also occurs because students who have an easy time with a teacher's way of testing may not have to understand what has been presented, but may still earn good grades.

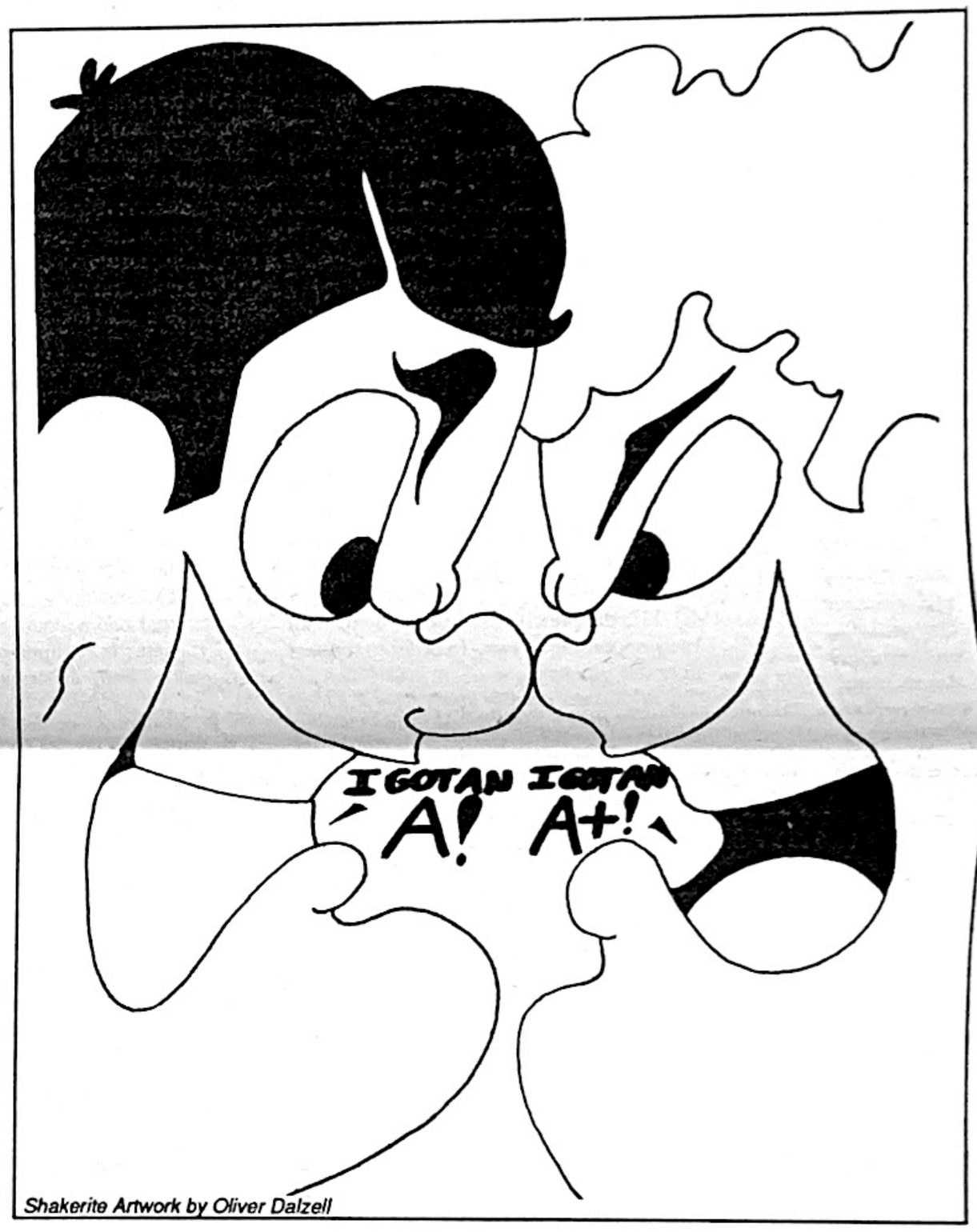
The entire debate over emphasis on grades is really a debate over whether the process or the product is more important. The product is, of course, the final grade and the GPA (grade point average). The process is learning and understanding the material and eventually pursuing one's interests. This pursuit of interest is lost many times in the pursuit for grades, and therefore part of the purpose of school is lost along with it, since high school can be a place for a student to explore interests.

Many students place a lot of importance on taking advanced placement courses and honors courses, and in the process, neglect taking courses that might interest them. Other students end up taking courses that are over their heads because all they care about are the level of the courses This partially reflects students' fears about getting into college, but also reflects that our schools are producing students that know how to beat the system, not how to learn.

A lot of creativity of thought and skills is lost in the current system. Students are forced to conform to the system of testing and to take the same types of classes as other students or to not be successful in school. Many students no longer take classes because they are interested in the subject or participate in activities which interest them. Individual talents and abilities are sometimes ignored as students melt into the system.

This conformity is mainly a result of the pressures of getting into college. College pressure causes some students to only participate in activities and take classes that look good on their college application. This "packaging" of students further discourages individuality and creativity and is the end result of "grade grubbing" in the high school.

Too much emphasis in school is put on getting good grades and getting into college instead of learning. Students may ignore their interests so they can take only the courses they need to take. The emphasis needs to be shifted so that individual abilities and the process of learning become more important. The central focus of school must once again become the "pursuit of knowledge."



Shakerite Artwork by Oliver Dalzell

Letter from the editors

Changes update paper to '90s look

As you have noticed, the Shakerite has taken on a new look this month. The larger page size, new nameplate, use of color and numerous other changes will better portray the feeling of the 90's and keep the Shakerite in sync with current trends in newspaper design.

It is our hope that the design changes will make the Shakerite more enjoyable to read while allowing us to continue covering the school, its students, faculty and events.

Normally "The Rite Idea," the staff editorial, appears in this space. We would like to take this opportunity to clarify what its purpose is.

For each issue the Shakerite's five member editorial board formulates several theses for the subject and view of "The Rite Idea". These theses are then submitted to the entire Shakerite staff to be voted on. The thesis chosen by a majority vote is then assigned to a member of the staff to be reaserched and written.

This editorial is printed in as "The Rite Idea." The editorial is unsigned, as it represents the views of the editorial board of the Shakerite; however it does not necessarily represent the views of every member on the Shakerite staff. Hopefully this has cleared up some of the confusion over the "The Rite Idea."

Unlike "The Rite Idea," signed editorials represent the views of their authors. These articles are assigned by the opinion editor on the basis of a reporter's interest in a particular topic.

Due to the overwhelming responses to last month's issue, we were unable to print all letters to the editor that were submitted. However, the letters that were not printed this issue are being kept on file for possible use at a later date.

We hope you enjoy this issue and look forward to your comments.

Jeremy Kahn and Marshall Levin
Co-Editors-in-Chief

The Shakerite • November 30, 1990

SHHS

Perfecting the brownnosing artist:

Test your brownnosing abilities

BY DAVID LIPTON AND SHERI SPITZ
Staff Reporter and Co-Centerpiece Editor

Most of us have kissed up to a teacher, a parent or somebody at some point in our lives. It is a fine art and it must be handled with delicacy. A good brownnosing can make or break an education, can make or break a life. Below is a list of questions designed to determine how good a brown-noser you are. Read the directions to yourself and get someone sitting next to you to read them aloud.

Directions

Read the following questions and choose the best answer. Circle the letter preceding the answer you have chosen. You will have five minutes to complete this section. If you finish early, do not go back to any other section of the paper and do not read ahead. Begin work now

1) You are awakened in class by the teacher asking you a question that you don't know the answer to. The best way to escape the predicament is:
a) Say, "I'm sorry, I was sleeping and did not catch the question."
b) Respond, "I'm sorry I was just resting my eyelids."
c) Try to answer the question by asking someone sitting next to you what the teacher asked.
d)Say to the teacher that you are listening with your eyes closed because you feel you can appreciate the words more that way. Then change the subject to something you know.

2) You did poorly on a quiz. The teacher is disappointed in you. In order to redeem yourself you say...
a) "I didn't really study."
b) "I didn't pay attention in class."
c) "I'm going to study really hard next time."
d) "I could have done better if I would have studied."

3) You're caught unprepared in class. To escape from this situation you must say...
a) "I did the work, but I didn't understand it. Could you please review it."
b) "I'm sorry, I didn't do the work but I'll do it tonight."
c) "I had work to do in other classes so I could not do yours."
d) I didn't realize we had homework."

4) Your teacher overhears you speaking negatively about another teacher. When questioned, your response is...
a) "I don't like him, so it's okay to talk about him."
b) "He hates me too. I know he talks about me..."
c) "Seriously, he is not that bad a teacher, but he pales in comparison to you."
d) "They deserved it."

5) You show up late for class after talking to a friend in the hall. You should...
a) say, "The halls were crowded and I couldn't get through."
b) say, "I had to stay after in my last class."
c) say, "I had to go to my locker."
d) fake an injury

Scoring

Give yourself one point for every correct answer by checking the answer key below. Add them up and check the corresponding evaluation.

Evaluation

0-3: Why are you even taking this quiz? Rush right out, right now, and take a brownnosing course. I hear that the Princeton Review is good.

2-4: This score is acceptable. I realize that a spur of the moment quiz might not reflect an accurate score, however, you might want to look into a review course just in case. Remember, you can always take it again in spring.

5: Get ready for greatness. You have achieved the best possible score. But you are so clever, you probably figured that out all ready. Congratulations. You may now move on to the rest of the paper.

Answer Key

1) d 2) c 3) a 4) c 5) All of the above (Trick question, heh heh!)

Public Display of Affection
Student clinging remains unpunished

BY NANOR TABRIZI
Staff Reporter

Throughout the crowded hallways, the voices of teachers ring out. 'Shakespeare was one of the best writers,' English teachers exclaim. 'Zut alors, elle est absent' cries a French teacher.

Students are rushing to their classrooms.

That is, all except two students, who are pressed against the locker with their arms around each other.

What's wrong with this picture? The above scenario is common in the high school hallways. Yet some feel that this public display of affection is not proper and does not belong in the school.

"PDA is absolutely not appropriate. Holding hands and having arms around each other is one thing, but two bodies pressed against a locker is a problem," said Shaker parent, Donna Ernst.

Ernst also said students should be reprimanded for PDA. Yet she pointed out that a student learns about what is inappropriate at home. It is hard for the school to punish students for something that they have learned at home is acceptable.

Both Desadre Lawson, 11th grade unit principal, and guidance counselor Freddie Holman admitted to never punishing students for PDA.

> *"Holding hands and having arms around each other is one thing, but two bodies pressed against a locker is a problem."*
>
> -Donna Ernst

"I see male students holding hands with females daily. That doesn't bother me, but clinging does. When I see them in the hall, I merely tell the young people to respect one another," Lawson said.

According to the student handbook, "sexual misconduct" is not permitted. However, the handbook doesn't mention any penalties for PDA.

Actions taken in the 1960's for PDA were very different from the lax actions of today.

According to social studies teacher Baird Wiehe, penalties for PDA in prior years included anything from writing "I will not kiss in the halls" on the blackboard to detentions and even calls home to parents.

"Society has changed. More things are accepted. T.V. has a lot of things that [my generation] wouldn't find even in the most forbidden book," Ernst said.

This change in society is reflected in students who believe PDA is all right.

One sophomore admits it is a little embarrassing when students look at her and her boyfriend in the hall. But, she said, she doesn't mind that much since it is the only time that she can see her boyfriend.

"I couldn't go a day without him kissing me," she said.

Other students find PDA very inappropriate.

"A lot of my friends [kiss] in the halls. I think it is disgusting," said a junior.

Witnessing PDA is also embarrassing, according to sophomore Aisha Belle. Belle says it is uncomfortable not knowing where to look.

Of course, there are those who no longer notice it.

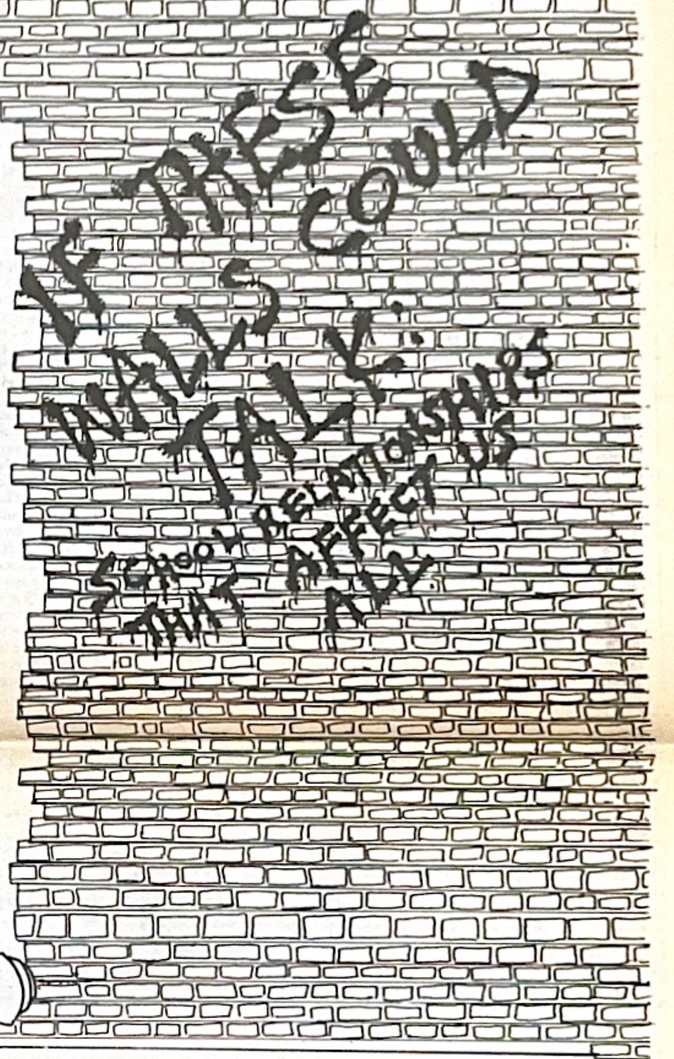
"I sort of ignore it and am oblivious to it. I have on occasion indicated that it wasn't appropriate. But I'm not on a crusade to stop it," said social studies teacher Jim Burry.

Most teachers admit they have remarked to students about the impropriety of PDA. Yet many also said that this was a difficult thing to do.

"It's hard to go up to kids and try to stop them. It may embarrass them in front of their peers," Wiehe said.

It has not been officially determined as to what kinds of PDA are acceptable. Is holding hands in the hall appropriate while kissing is not? Because PDA rules are so vague, penalties are uncommon.

"In fact, PDA may be helpful to students by getting them through a stressful day," said Wiehe.



Teacher couples spend days, nights together
Spouses agree that married, school lives remain separate

BY JAMIL SMITH
Staff Reporter

Many students think that teachers exist for the sole purpose of teaching. Often they are shocked to learn that teachers have lives out of school. However, some teachers mix their business lives with their home lives by marrying their co-workers.

"Some things that we learn from each other are patience and how to be a good listener," math teacher Ovella McIntyre said about her husband of three years, health teacher Hubert McIntyre.

The McIntyres are one of the three married couples at school. Dr. Carol and Steven Fox and John and Marianne Schwartz are the other two couples who work in the high school.

"We work well together," English teacher Dr. Carol Fox said about English teacher Steven Fox, to whom she has been married for 21 years.

Even though they learn things from one another, each partner has his or her unique style.

"Although we teach the same subject, we both have our own way of teaching it," Dr. Carol Fox said.

While some people discuss their daily activities with their husband or wife at the end of the day, these teachers, after their day is finished and they return home, rarely bring up the subject of school. Physical education teacher John Schwartz, who married English teacher Marianne Schwartz three years ago, commented on this.

"At home, we talk briefly, if at all, about the day," he said.

Both the marriage proposal and it's acceptance were very unusual in the case of the McIntyres. Hubert McIntyre "popped the big question" to the then Ovella Roulette in the middle of a math luncheon which he was not invited to on June 9, 1987. According to Ovella McIntyre, it took her a month to decide.

"Even though we had been in the same building for a while, I interviewed him," she said. "I asked him if he liked kids, since I have a son. I asked him what his good qualities were, if he was witty, if he was a good listener and if he was goal-oriented," said Ovella McIntyre. "I know that I picked the right man."

All teachers agreed that even though their spouses teach at the high school, there is no effect on their relationship at home. They felt it was neither detremental nor beneficial.

"There's not really anything I regret about the fact that we teach in the same building each day," John Schwartz said.

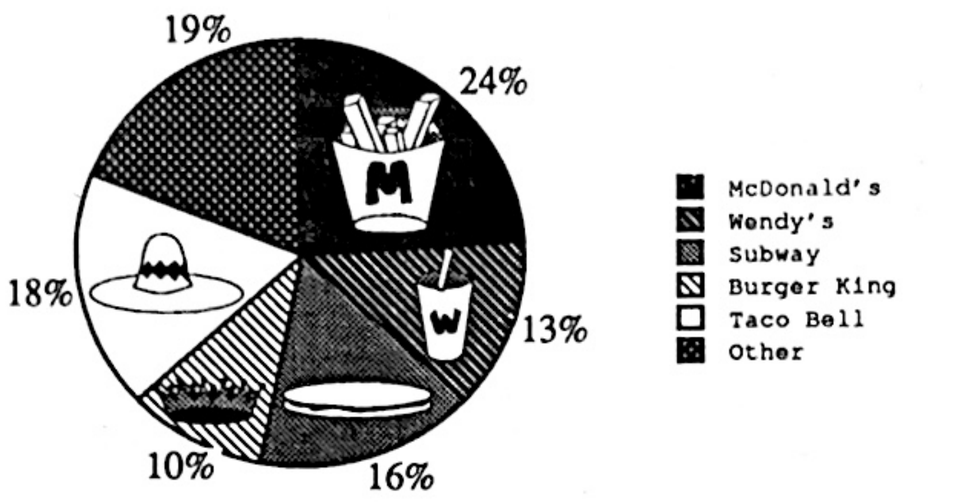
Hubert McIntyre agreed.

"There's no effect," Hubert McIntyre said. "We're still professionals, and we act like professionals."

Grabbing a bite

The following is a survey showing students' favorite fast food restaurants and how much they spend per visit.

Favorite fast food restaurants:



Amount spent per one person:

Graphics by Kathryn Schulz

Fuddrucker's service falls short of expectations

BY KIM RATHBONE
Staff Reporter

Fuddrucker's emblem reads, "The world's greatest hamburgers." However, they neglected to mention "the world's slowest service."

Although I was anxious to try the new restaurant at Tower City, my excitement was soon dispelled. I entered the restaurant to find a "Please wait for hostess" sign, yet noticed people ordering food at a counter. Wondering whether I was supposed to wait or order for myself, I walked toward the back of the restaurant to find the only friendly worker who took my order.

I had no problem deciding what I wanted to eat, but my friend, who happens to be a vegetarian, had difficulty. They did have five different salads, but except for the side order dinner salad, every one had meat in them.

We gave the cashier our orders only to find that her register had been shut down. We repeated our orders to an impatient woman who snapped at us and told us to wait for our number (which was 94) to be called.

After dealing with the rude employee, my friend and I waited patiently at our table for our number to be called while Christmas music played in the background—in the middle of November!

I assume the number we were given is usually used for organizational purposes, but it did not prove to be efficient. After what felt like a lifetime, number 17 was called to come pick up their order. Either they had passed my number or I had to wait for 77 other people to claim their orders.

We approached the counter labeled "Pick-Up" to ask about our orders while two older couples marched right in front of us, also questioning their orders. When we were finally at the head of the line, the woman took one look at us and looked away. They obviously have little respect for teenagers.

After another 10 minutes of trying to get some attention, a different woman finally waited on us and told us our meals were not ready. We continued to stand on sore feet until yet another woman dealt with us. We discovered our dinner had been sitting on the counter the entire time but they had neglected to call our number.

I then walked over to the 'produce' department where I was to dress my hamburger with various food such as tomatoes, onions and lettuce. This looked impressive, but I'd much rather they bring me my food and I could tell them to hold the pickles if I didn't want any.

I returned to our table with a growling stomach and was prepared to eat what looked like a delicious masterpiece. I bit into the burger only to find that the meat was as cold as the refrigerated tomatoes I had just placed on top.

I concluded that the best part of the meal was the free refills, but even this had its flaws since there were no diet drinks available.

Fuddrucker's
The Avenue at Tower City
230 Huron Rd. 44113
Phone : 241-6633
Hours: Sunday-Thursday 7 a.m.-10 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 7 a.m.-Midnight

Let's Eat Out

Dinner is Served delivers disappointment

BY LAURIE GREEN
Staff Reporter

Exquisite cuisine delivered to your doorstep from the most popular retaurants in Cleveland is now a dream come true.

A simple phone call to "Dinner is Served" promises to bring "the finest restaurant food deliciously prepared in state-of-the-art packaging to your door," according to an advertisement for the new delivery service. It sounds convenient and easy. However, the new service still has some twists to work out before it starts to run smoothly.

After contemplating the variety of restaurants, I chose to order from Yours Truly. However, when I placed the order I was informed they were closed for remodeling. Noggin's menu was the closest to "YoursTruly," but it was not open yet . I finally decided to order an appetizer of shrimp with garlic butter and lemon and a dinner order of spaghetti from Giovanni's.($14.50)

After calling the delivery service and placing the order at 5:00 p.m., I sat back and relaxed. According to their advertisement the service promises to have "your phone order delivered hot and fresh and within one hour by a courteous delivery person."

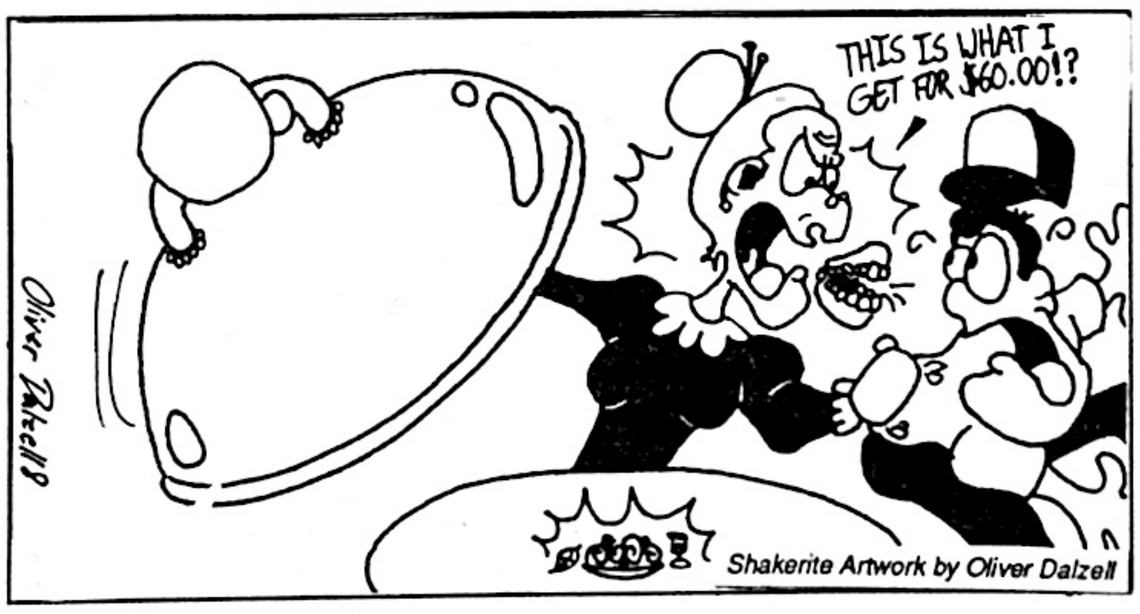
An hour and 20 minutes later I received a call from the delivery service telling me that the delivery person was two streets away. Ten minutes later the delivery service called again, informing me that the driver could not find my house.

Finally, my dinner arrived a half hour late. The food came in a large styrofoam picnic basket designed to keep the food fresh and hot. However, the state of the art packaging did not seem to work. The shrimp was ice cold and drenched in garlic butter and the spaghetti seemed more like an appetizer. I was very disappointed and to top it all off, the salads that were supposed to come with my dinner did not. The delivery service was cooperative, however, and gave us money off for the salads.

The benefits of this service are the convenience of having a delicious dinner already made after coming home from an exhausting day at work or school. There is a choice of 11 different restaurants ranging from Sand's to Pearl of the Orient and they deliver to over eight Cleveland suburbs.

The main disadvantage of this service is that it is expensive. There is a $4.50 delivery fee on all orders and from each restaurant and a minimum of $10.00 of food must be ordered. Also one of the restaurants (Yours Truly) charges 20 percent higher for the delivery service items than it does for its dining room menu. There are also specifications to tip the driver generously.

Dinner is Served needs to provide better service, lower its prices and shorten the hour long wait before it can become successful.



Shakerite Artwork by Oliver Dalzell

Dinner is Served
23811 Chagrin Blvd.
Beachwood, Ohio 44122
Phone: 360-9924
Hours: Monday-Thursday 5-9:45 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 5-10:45 p.m.
Sunday 4:30-9 p.m.

Big Business: Young entrepreneur makes waves with computer company

BY LESLY BLANTON
Staff Reporter

Teenagers are notorious for never having enough money. "Vanilla Ice" tapes and dates cost money-money that high school students do not have. While some teens are working for minimum wage and the rest are bumming quarters from friends, junior Chris Mims is a self-employed man.

Mims is the co-owner and founder of WPR Computer Resources, a company that helps businesses with their computer needs.

"We advise [our customers] on how they can make an office system better," Mims said.

Mims has been interested in computers since he was age 10.

"I read a lot of books [on computers] and then I got a computer. Then I did a lot of work on it and did progressively higher things," Mims said.

Starting a company takes a lot of responsibility, hard work and commitment, according to Mims. Mims and his partner, Walter T. Rider, an '89 alumnus, had to pay for advertising, licensing, telephones, mailing and legal expenses. Mims and Rider have sacrificed receiving money knowing that most small businesses put what money they make back into the company.

"I don't take home a pay check. The cost of starting a company is enormous," Mims said.

While Mims and Rider are young, he does not feel that their ages are a drawback.

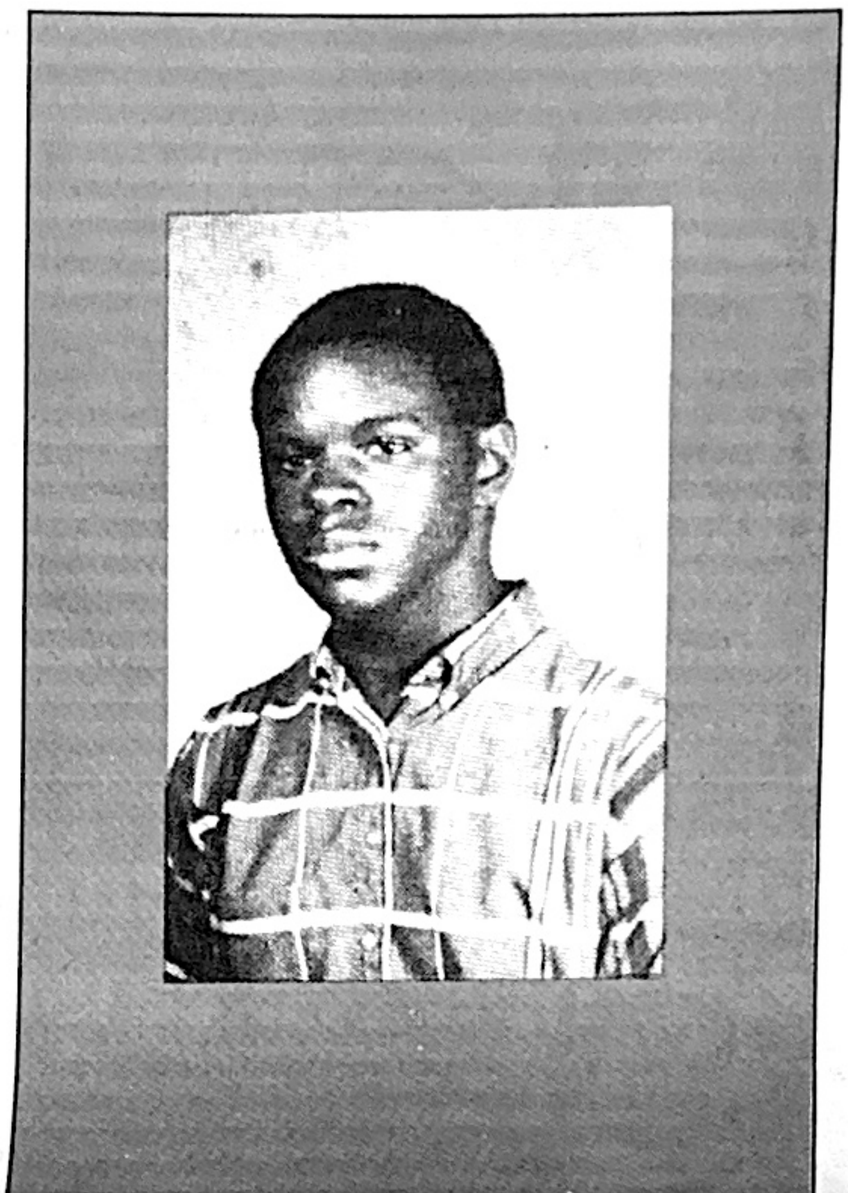
"We thought about the age thing, but if we give off the right image, then age shouldn't matter," Mims said.

Mims' expectations of WPR are high. He takes himself and the company seriously and hopes to make it his life's work.

"I hope *[WPR] grows into a big company," Mims said.*

Mims also is optimistic about his life should WPR not succeed. He said that he would pick himself up and start a new type of business.

"I'd continue on with my life. It would not be the end of the world," Mims said. "It may seem that way for the next few days. I'd try another [business.] I'm not sure it would be the same type, but I'd continue to think about things I'd like to do in business."



SECRET OF HIS SUCCESS. Junior Chris Mims is the owner of his own computer business, WPR Computer Resources. *PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GRISTMILL*

Running a new company takes up a lot of Mims' time. He works every other day after school. Mims said that sometimes it is hard to find time for himself.

"I don't get to sleep a lot and I don't have much of a social life," Mims said.

However, Mims said some things are worth giving up.

"My social life wasn't that great a thing before. I hung out with my friends and went to parties like anyone else. Making money and having a business out weighs my social life." he said.

Although WPR may take up much of his time, Mims realizes that school and getting a good education is important.

"I keep up with my school work and [I make sure] I don't throw away my education to make money. If the company fails and you don't have an education then you are going to have a problem," Mims said.

Mims plans to go to a college near home so that he can continue the business.

"I've already started checking into colleges. [WPR] limits me to a close area-not that that is a disadvantage or anything," He said.

Mims finds many rewards in being a partner in his own business and enjoys many parts of it.

"[Owning my own business] gives me experience in the real business world, which I've always wanted. And it is a great thing to put on a college resumé. I'm working for myself instead of working in a restaurant like other teenagers," said Mims.

Despiteet that he owns his own business at a young age, Mims does not consider himself to be all that different from most people his own age. He simply said that he just thinks about things a little bit differently and sometimes does things a little ahead of others. However, business owner and all, Mims has a very straightforward view of himself.

"I'm upbeat and a hell of a nice guy," Mims said.

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The Semanteme welcomes all submissions! Sumbit poetry, short stories, and art. The Semanteme is Shaker's only literary magazine Submit your work today!

Smokin': Students smoke despite health risks

BY SUSAN CONNELLY
Feature Editor

Ear, nose and throat doctors agree, smoking cigarettes can soothe coughs and sore throats and make you feel better."

Things have changed since this advertisement for Phillip Morris cigarettes first aired. Whereas once everyone from Lucille Ball to medical doctors endorsed smoking, today one cannot pick up a pack of cigarettes without seeing the health risks that are now known to be associated with smoking.

Although today's generation may be more educated about the risks associated with smoking than those of the past, teenagers continue to start smoking at an alarming rate.

"My mom always said she started smoking when she was young because she didn't know that it could kill you," a senior said. "I've always known that smoking can kill you, but I started anyway. It's just really hard to look down at this cigarette and think that it is going to kill you, you know? That's in about 60 years. I can't believe that what I do now will hurt me then, I guess."

According to former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, 90 percent of all smokers start smoking before the age of 19. Koop said that smoking is more addictive the younger that a person is. Thirty-seven states prohibit the sale of cigarettes to minors, including Ohio.

"Everyone knows that anyone can get cigarettes if they want them," a junior said. "I started when I was10. All I had to do is walk up to a cigarette machine and buy them. Then all I had to do was watch people at restaurants to learn how to smoke. It's about the most socially acceptable drug available."

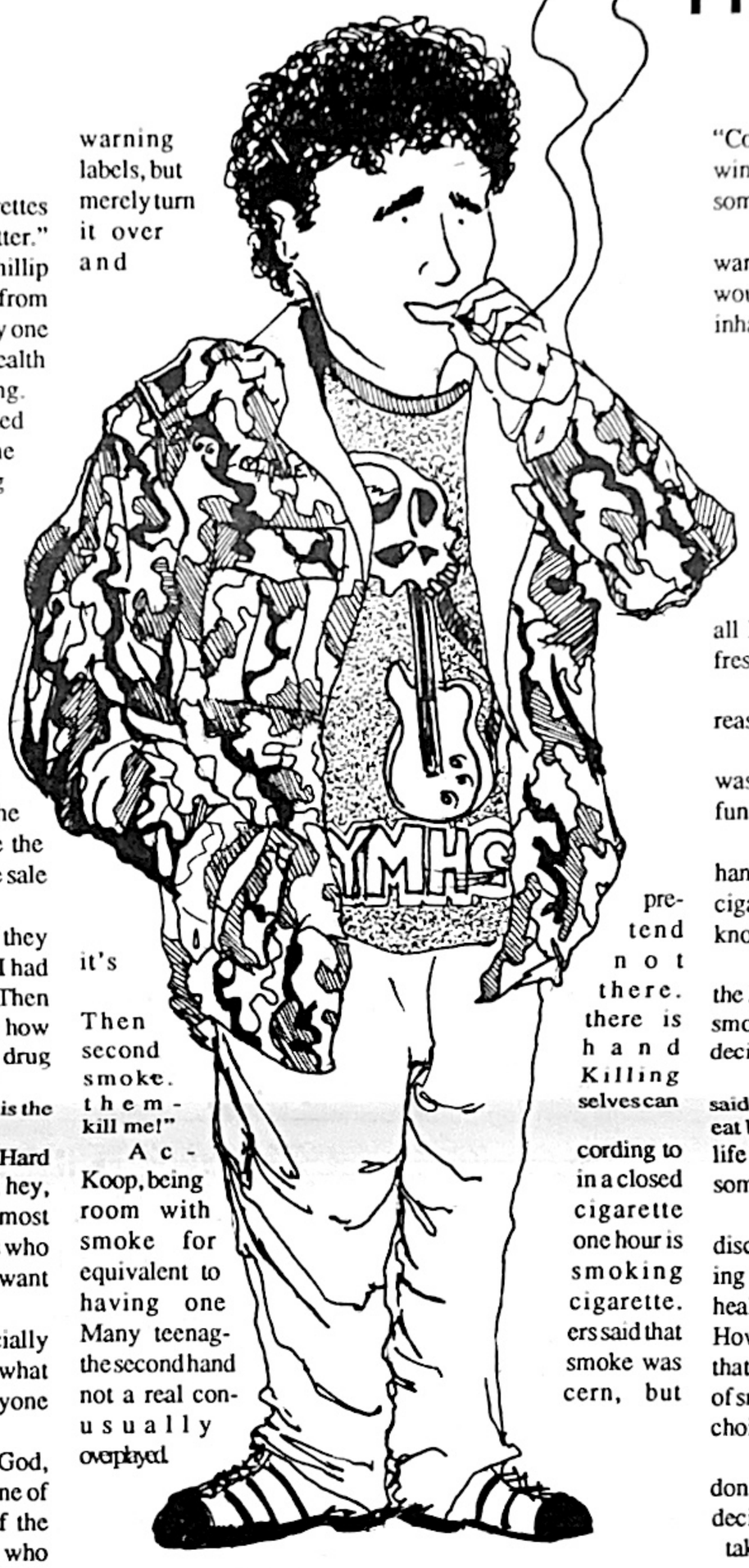
Many agreed that part of the attraction to smoking is the role it plays in society.

"If someone's a drunk, they're looked down upon. Hard drugs are taboo in proper society," a senior said. "But, hey, smoking is done and accepted by the coolest and most respectable people. If it weren't for a few of my teachers who I'm sure would look down on what I do, I wouldn't even want to be quoted anonymously."

However, others disagreed that smoking is still socially acceptable. They said that with the knowledge of what smoking can do not only to the smoker, but to others, anyone who smokes is looked down on by non-smokers.

"I look at my friends who smoke and I think 'God, they're dumb,'" a sophomore said. "I'm angry at any one of my friends who wants to take their life. With all of the information available today about smoking, anyone who starts is committing suicide, I think. It's like they see the warning labels, but merely turn it over and pretend it's not there. Then there is second hand smoke. Killing them - selves can kill me!"

According to Koop, being in a closed room with cigarette smoke for one hour is equivalent to smoking having one cigarette. Many teenag- ers said that the second hand smoke was not a real con- cern, but usually overplayed



Shakerite Artwork by Herb Ascherman

"Come on. Almost all smokers are polite enough to open a window if you're in the car, or get out of your face if you're somewhere else," a senior said.

"I don't care what they do," a sophomore said. "I don't want to be anywhere near cigarette smoke. It's gross. Why would anyone see a cigarette and say, 'gee, I want to try inhaling smoke'?"

However, most non-smokers said that they had tried smoking at one point.

"I figured if everyone was doing it it might be worth while," a sophomore said. "It was all right. But I know it can kill me so I decided I really didn't want to try it ever again. Once was enough, or really too much."

Others said that they never tried, nor do they intend to.

"Why? Why would I want to? I know it kills me, that's all I need to know. I'm also scared that I will like it," a freshman said.

Teenage smokers said that they started it for a variety of reasons.

"My friends would all go out and smoke at parties. It wasn't really peer pressure, but more it was social and I had fun doing it," a senior said.

"I started because it felt good to have something in my hands," a junior said. "I felt more comfortable with a cigarette, I guess. Also, they do make you feel good, you know. I'm quitting when I turn 18."

Although many non-smokers said that the knowledge of the health risks involved stopped them from smoking, many smokers said that the health risks had no impact on their decision.

"We all know it's bad for us, but we still do it," a senior said. "Everyone does something that is bad for them. You eat butter even though it is bad for you. You can't live your life for the possibility of death. You're going to die from something so you might as well have fun doing it."

Despite attempts by the Surgeon General and others to discourage smoking, millions of teenagers will start smoking this year with the knowledge that it can cause serious health problems such as cancer, emphysema and even death. However, Koop said, smokers and non-smokers all agree that it is far better today that the information about the risks of smoking are available so that people can make an educated choice about whether or not to smoke.

"If I want to choose to take the health risks, I will. If you don't want to, you don't have to. Either way, it is an educated decision that you can make for yourself. Just be willing to take the consequences," a senior said.

Exchange students discuss world issues

BY DAN RATNER
Staff Reporter

Nine foreign exchange students, representing seven countries, are students at Shaker this year. These students reflect the views of their countries on today's most controversial issues. Their views on political issues help us to see what their countries are like both socially and politically.

One of the most controversial issues in the United States today is abortion. Abortion is a topic of much discussion around the world. Many of the foreign exchange students said that in their country people accept the laws country and keep their opinions to themselves.

In Yugoslavia, abortion is illegal after seven months of pregnancy , saidGeorge Haxhiu, a junior from Yugoslavia. Haxhiu said that most Yugoslavians think that this is a fair compromise on the issue.

Jack Siebel, a senior from Germany (formerly West Germany), said that the Germans, in general, accept abortion. He believed that the German people think that it often prevents children from being born into bad situations. Siebel believes that his personal views agree with the overall view of the German people.

The exchange students said their countries deal with the issue of drugs much differently than the United States.

Although most drugs are legal in Yugoslavia, Haxhiu said that few people use them. He said that he was taught by his parents and teachers not to do drug. Haxhiu believes that most people in his country are taughtnot to do drugs.

Junior Kirsten Schlange said that in Germany less people use drugs.

"They are less of a problem in Germany than in the United States because it is not considered cool to take drugs in Germany," Schlange said.

Siebel also said that most of the people in Germany do not take drug because they know that drugs can kill. He attributed the United States' drug problem to making drugs illegal.

"I would be for the legalization of drugs because the more you try to prevent youth from taking drugs, the more they want to," Siebel said.

Most of the exchange students said their countries agree with the views of the United States about nuclear weapons. Most students are against them and would like to see complete disarmament.

"I am for destroying all nuclear weapons because we have no need for them," said Haxhiu.

Haxhiu added that if all nations got rid of nuclear weapons, no one would need them for defense.

Many of the exchange students follow these issues very closely. They said that in their countries, most people follow world issues.

"Following issues is what I do in my spare time," said Haxhiu.

However, some exchange students, similar to many Americans, only follow them through school.

"In New Zealand, I have a class in which you have to keep up with current events," said Nicola Walkley from New Zealand.

The exchange students had varied opinions about the government of the United States. Most said that it was a good form of government and it worked well.

"I like democracy. I think it's the best way to run a country," said Schlange.

Siebel said that the U.S. government resembled the West German government in its freedom, democracy, and the way it is run. He said that democracy gives the people more power.

Other exchange students felt that although democracy is a good form of government, the U.S. government could lose many laws and bodies and function better. They also pointed out some differences that the American form of government brings about.

"The freedom is the same, but Americans are more willing to express their opinions," said Walkley.

The nine exchange students are getting to see our type of democracy first-hand. At the same time, we are getting to see their governments and countries through their eyes.

Sports facilities inadequate

Sports Column

BY ERIK BOLAND
Staff Reporter

As a frequent attender of Shaker's football, basketball, and baseball games, I have been able to give the sports facilities a thorough inspection and I have concluded that, in a nutshell, they are disgraceful. They are an embarrassment to Shaker.

The biggest embarrassment must be the football field. The only school with worse football facilities than ours is Trinity, where they do not have their own field. They play at Garfield Middle School on a field that is more dirt than grass, often reminding me of our baseball field. Trinity's field is, however, level, which is more than can be said about our field. When opposing teams come here they have to bring their climbing equipment instead of helmets and shoulder pads in order to negotiate its slope.

The stadium is not exactly the most enjoyable place to watch a game either. The paint on the bleachers is chipping so that whenever you stand up you have to brush off your behind. And I guess that they're going to hold graduation there. What a silly idea! It will probably be 40 degrees and raining. I hope the new paint is water resistant.

The varsity baseball diamond is not any better. It is more reminiscent of Saudi Arabia than a baseball field. Having grass in the infield instead of weeds would be nice. Is that too much to ask? The other problem is the field holds as much water as the average diaper. If the baseball team was playing an opponent they didn't want to play, they could all gather at the field an hour before game time, spit on the diamond and get a rain-out.

While the football field is Shaker's biggest embarrassment, the boys gym is almost as bad. It has fewer good seats than Cleveland Stadium. At one game last year, I had a great time trying to find a good seat. I started the game at the top of the bleachers on the upper level. Unfortunately, I developed a nosebleed because I was up so high. So I moved around the gym to the other basket. Unfortunately now I couldn't see the scoreboard, which was definitely a problem. How could I enjoy the game without knowing the score?

Finally, I thought I had gotten lucky. A seat opened up right at center court. I rushed over to the seat and sat down. Now, of course, there was a wall of cement in front of me. I was in theoretically the best seat, right at center court, and I could hardly see what was going on in the game. I had to keep moving my head to see. Suddenly, my nose had collided with my neighbor's head as he was trying to see as well. My nose was bleeding once again. I could see why the guy who sat there before me had left.

So that's my review of our sports facilities. But don't let that deter you from attending. We have a fine basketball team that deserves your support. Just remember to come early and get a good seat. If you can't come early, wear something to protect your nose.

Taking a dip in the pool

Students 'rake in the dough' from gambling

BY LORNE NOVICK
Staff Reporter

To some, playing a friendly game of football is fun. To others, betting on a game in the hope of winning money is fun. Both create excitement, but only one can "make the pocket happy," too.

Most people have fun betting with friends, but some take it too seriously.

"Once they start winning, they think they can't lose," junior Kevin Mendelsohn said. "When they lose, they keep trying to win back what they lost."

Some people don't play for the enjoyment, but to make quick money.

"I'll play cards, dice or anything that I can make a buck out of," sophomore Will Stephens said.

However, sometimes this obsession can lead to an uncomfortable situation in which a choice has to be made as to whether the gambling has gone too far.

"I had some friends who did illegal gambling with bookies," sophomore Ken Howard said. "At one point, they realized that they were in over their heads and they had to get out."

Most people don't think of their friendly wagers as being illegal.

Sometimes parents bring gambling into the household.

"My father gets tickets from a man and he circles the teams he wants, college or pro," junior Jerry Hill said. He wins a certain amount of money if his teams win or are not beaten by the spread."

Some people can still have fun with this without getting caught up in the money aspect.

"I think that it is fun," Howard said. "It adds a new dimension to watching sports."

Howard attributes the widespread gambling to the emphasis on sports in today's society.

"There is so much hype these days over the Super Bowl—Giants vs. 49ers, etc. that people want to bet on," Howard said. "I know I would."

Waldbaum summed up the feelings of most students on gambling.

"My involvement is for amusement," Waldbaum said. "It's fun to see if your predictions were correct, and the money doesn't hurt either."

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Shooting to be the best...

Expectations run high for boys basketball

BY JOEL VANARSDALE

Staff Reporter

The Shaker Heights High School men's basketball team had it's best season ever last year. While reaching regionals they won a record 22 games while suffering only three losses.

This year's team is hoping for much of the same success. The expectations are high and many feel this talent rich team is ready to take all challengers.

"We have the talent to go all the way if we stay together mentally," senior Doug Underwood said.

Fifth year coach Bob Wonson agrees that the team can be successful if they continue to improve.

"We should be a contender," Wonson said, "I would be disappointed if we aren't."

When asked how this team compares with the last year's powerhouse, Wonson stressed the need for improvement, pointing out that last year's team improved tremendously as the season progressed. Last year's LEL champs had a sluggish five and two start before winning 16 games in a row.

Improvement will be necessary because of the Raiders rigorous schedule. Along with playing in a tough and improved conference, *the team will travel to the Magic City Shootout in Birmingham, Ala., where they will face some of the top teams in the nation.*

The Hoop Squad will look to their physical quickness and improved shooting to compensate for their lack of pure height.

"Everybody on this team knows how to run the court," junior Kyle Withers said.

Wonson agreed that quickness and shooting were important, but was quick to point out that rebounding was the key to a successful season.

"How well we rebound will determine how far we go," Wonson said.

While players agreed that rebounding was important, many believe that mental toughness, hard work, and over all continuity would determine the team's success.

"As long as we continue to work hard we can be successful," junior Jerome Griffith said.

Teamwork is also being stressed by many other players.

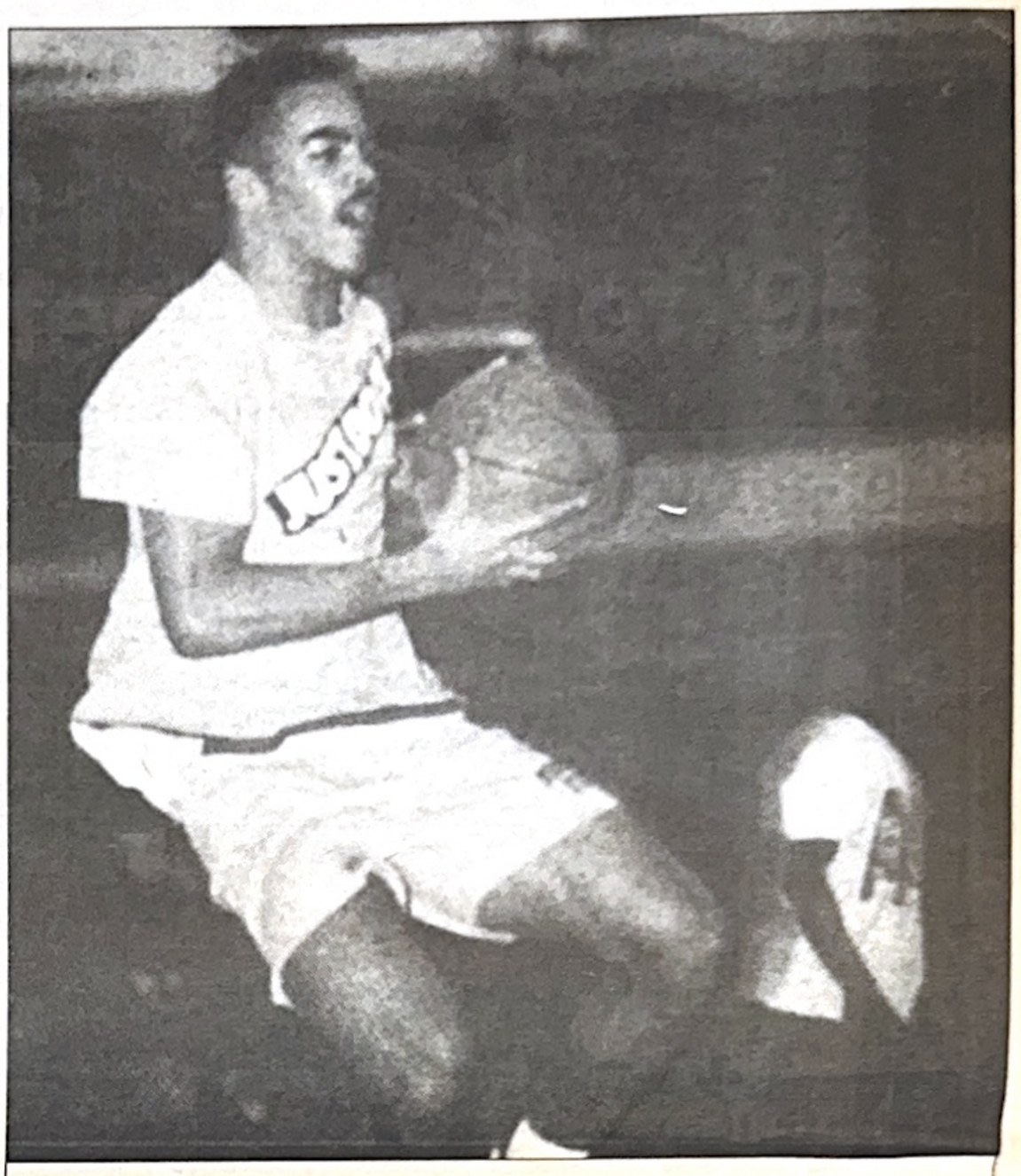
"We need to believe in each other and stop arguing," senior Quin Chambers said.

The Raiders will also have to compensate for the loss of three starters to graduation. Along with the need for additional scorers to step forward more leadership will also be needed. Wonson expects this leadership will also be needed. Wonson expects this leadership to be provided by league MVP Malcolm Simms.

"Malcolm is a great leader and one of the hardest working players I've ever coached," Wonson said, "He leads by example and words."

This leadership is obvious in Simms belief in working hard in both practice, and on the court..

"Winning depends on what we do in practice," Simms said, "If we practice hard we can go all the way."



REACHING FOR VICTORY. Senior Doug Underwood strives to meet last year's success. The boys basketball team finished 21-3 and won the LEL title last year. The team is currently 2-0. Its first LEL game is today.

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